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science. The standard collection comprises 25 maps showing commercial distribution, over 100 economic photographs, and over 300 commercial products. This volume was prepared primarily as a work of reference for the schools in connection with the use of these collections. It will also be very useful in all schools where economic geography is taught. Materials of commerce are briefly described under the classification of vegetable, animal, and mineral substances. The description of materials is excellent, but so condensed that many important data are omitted. Panama straw, for example, defined as "the split leaf of a palm tree" (*Carludovica palmata*) is by no means the only material of which Panama hats are made. The geographic distribution of materials is admirably shown on a large series of Mercator charts, which make clear by shading tints the parts of the world producing the largest amounts of the various articles. This is one of the best supplements to our text-books of commercial geography that have yet been produced, and it will be appreciated in a large number of our educational institutions.

Examining and Grading Grains. By T. Lyttleton Lyon and E. G. Montgomery. vii and 101 pp., Illustrations. Ginn & Company, Boston, 1907. (Price, \$.60.)

This is a systematic laboratory course on field crops and the examining and grading of grains. The exercises are planned to cover about one year of laboratory work of four hours per week. The topics are wheat, corn, oats, barley, hay plants, and seed testing. The authors are professors in the agricultural department of the University of Nebraska.

Unter der Mitternachtssonne durch die Vulkan- und Gletscherwelt Islands. Von Carl Küchler. 174 pp., numerous Illustrations from Photographs and Map. Abel & Müller, Leipzig, 1906. (Price, M. 4.)

The author, who is known for his translations of Icelandic novels and his writings on the literature of the island, was sent to Iceland by Baedeker in 1905 to procure material for a guide-book. The information he obtained, which was much compressed for a tourist manual, has been used in more extended form in this book. It is the work of an intelligent traveller who saw much, describes in a very readable manner what he saw, and writes with sympathetic interest and with the best wishes for the welfare of the people and their country. Knowing the language of Iceland, he had an advantage over many earlier writers on the island; and though his book adds nothing to our geographical knowledge, its sketches of the land and its people have received the high praise from Dr. Thoroddsen of being trustworthy. Everything that the tourist goes to Iceland to see, including Mount Hekla and its ascent, is graphically pictured with pen and camera. The photographs are excellent and numerous, and the many glimpses they give us of Reykjavik are especially enjoyable. The black-and-white map is produced from Stieler's Hand-Atlas on a slightly larger scale, but with fewer place-names.

East of Suez: Ceylon, India, China, and Japan. By Frederick C. Penfield. New York: The Century Co., 1907. pp. xvii+349.

In his preface Mr. Penfield announces that he is going to preach a sermon on the things which "he failed to see . . . in that boundless region spoken of as East of Suez." These things are the "products of Uncle Sam's mills, workshops, mines,

and farms," and the Stars and Stripes floating above merchant vessels. Mindful of his text, he devotes one chapter to the history and present importance of the Suez Canal, and to its relation to the Panama Canal. Then, throughout a dozen delightful chapters, he forgets his avowed purpose, and gives us a vivid description of a few places of special interest in India and China. First there is Colombo, the port of that most beautiful of forested islands, Ceylon. Imagine an island where eight hundred million cocoanuts grow yearly! In such a place it is not surprising that the chief popular events should be elephant-driving and pearl-fishing, both conducted by the Government. Pearl-fishing is a huge lottery. It is estimated that there were 83,000,000 oysters available for divers in 1905 on the banks northwest of Ceylon. One oyster in a hundred bears a pearl, and "not more than one pearl in a hundred . . . has a value of importance." When the Government announces that the oysters have grown to suitable size, the town of Marichchikkaddi suddenly springs into being upon a desert strip of sandy sea-coast. Within a month or two, palm-leaf huts shelter 40,000 men,—divers, gem-buyers, speculators, money-lenders, petty merchants, coolies. All these lawless adventurers and fanatics, hailing from the whole Asian coast between Aden and Singapore, submit implicitly to a dozen white men. They know that the Britishers are absolutely fair. Ceylon, according to Penfield, is a wonderful country, not only because of its pearls, elephants, and cocoanuts, but because of its clean tea, and its bamboos, which have been measured as growing half an inch in an hour. In lovely Kandy, the ancient capital, which, according to a popular saying, lies "only forty miles from heaven," one sees among the happy people "no squalor, few beggars, and apparently no genuine poverty."

On the main-land of India, Penfield describes Bombay, Jeypore, the Taj Mahal, Benares, and Calcutta. "If any city in the East is sport-mad it is Bombay." Nevertheless, "it is now the largest cotton port in the world next to New Orleans"; and its Parsee merchants furnish an unrivalled example of a race which has preserved energy and commercial ability unimpaired for centuries. Jeypore, the "pink city," is more satisfying than any other town in India. What Penfield tells us is for the most part not new, but it is put in unusually interesting style. One is surprised to learn that the population of India has trebled under British rule.

Farther east we are told that as a port of call, not of origin, Hong Kong has the greatest tonnage of any city in the world. Macao, the old Portuguese city, nearly is a genuine Monte Carlo with twenty fan-tan shops running day and night. Canton, "the commercial capital of China, is the most satisfying, fascinating, and puzzling city in the Orient, if not in the whole world." There, removed from the influence of Peking and of foreigners, "the pulse of the great Flowery Kingdom can best be taken . . . for the native press and native scholars . . . say frankly what they believe." Foreigners are not supposed to be wanted and there is no place for them to stay in this city of 2,000,000 inhabitants. Nevertheless, one sees such signs as "Meals at All Day and Night," or "Steam Laundry & Co."

In two concluding chapters Penfield discusses our new commercial rivals in the Far East,—Germany and Japan. Both are making strenuous efforts to develop Chinese trade. "We are doing nothing. Our rivals are bending every energy to building merchant vessels in order to be able to compete with England. We, again, are resting on our laurels." We are apt to think of Japan as a little country. In truth her population of 47,000,000 is greater than that of

any country in the world except China, India, Russia, Germany, and the United States. Only 16% of her land is arable, and her own products can support only two-thirds of her population. She must of necessity either fall back into lethargy, or develop into a great commercial and industrial power. The conclusions as to the geographic relations of Japan, China, and America are doubtless the most important parts of Penfield's book, but not for them will it be read. Most readers will find the greatest pleasure and profit in the vivid pictures of the happy people of Ceylon, the royal hospitality of the Maharaja of Jeypore, and the "feminine" grace and beauty of the Taj Mahal, tomb of the peerless Queen Arjamand.

E. H.

Uganda by Pen and Camera. By C. W. Hattersley. With a Preface by T. F. Victor Buxton. xviii and 138 pp., and 24 photographic illustrations. Religious Tract Society, London, 1906, and American Sunday School Union, 1816 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia. (Price, 2s.)

The little book describes many phases of life in Uganda. Both letterpress and pictures give a good idea of the really remarkable progress that has been made in our way of civilization. Only thirty-two years have elapsed since Stanley visited that country, but the changes since then have been so numerous and rapid that descriptions of Uganda, written a few years ago, do not well apply to the present time. Such a book as Mr. Hattersley has written is therefore useful.

In his opinion: "The intelligence of the Baganda is quite equal to that of Englishmen; it is only a question of training. They learn to write in an incredibly short time and they stick at and master arithmetic in a way that many Englishmen would be pleased to copy." The average daily attendance at the boys' school in Mengo is 450. Speaking of Bible study, the author says:

If a teacher goes unprepared to a class in Uganda he will probably regret it before he is through his lesson, for the natives do not believe in passing over a passage because it is difficult.

There are scattered throughout Uganda over 1,100 churches, all connected with the Church Missionary Society. In these churches 52,000 worshippers assemble every Sunday, and probably half that number, day by day, come for reading and instruction. The author says nothing of the large work which Roman Catholic missionaries are carrying on.

Peasant Life in the Holy Land. By C. T. Wilson. London: John Murray, 1906. 8vo. p. x, 321.

In spite of the multitude of books upon Palestine there is room for more. Mr. Wilson has chosen as his subject the life of the peasants or Fellahin of the country as distinguished from the people of the cities, on the one hand, and the wandering Bedouin, on the other. He sticks consistently to his subject, and gives a vivid picture of peasant life as it exists to-day, and as it has probably existed since the times of the Bible so far as essential features are concerned. As a missionary who has lived long in Palestine, who has associated intimately with the people, and who speaks their language fluently, Mr. Wilson is peculiarly well fitted for his task. And his book is eminently timely, as the conditions of life in Palestine are beginning to change rapidly.

Most of the changes now in progress appear to be due to the Turkish Government or to the influence of European trade and travel. Formerly most of the land was held in common by all the householders of a village. Now the